

What is claimed is:

1.           A plate inserting apparatus comprising:  
2           a loader for holding a new plate inserted in a  
3 lateral direction and feeding the new plate to a plate  
4 cylinder;  
5           a first regulating member for regulating a  
6 position of one side edge of the new plate inserted in  
7 said loader;  
8           a second regulating member for regulating a  
9 position of the other side edge of the new plate  
10 inserted in said loader, thus positioning the new plate  
11 in a widthwise direction in cooperation with said first  
12 regulating member; and  
13           first moving means for moving the new plate  
14 inserted in said loader in a direction substantially  
15 perpendicular to a plate surface, thus accommodating the  
16 new plate between said first and second regulating  
17 members.

2.           An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
2 said second regulating member is supported in said  
3 loader to be movable in a direction to come close to and  
4 separate from said first regulating member.

3.           An apparatus according to claim 2, further  
2 comprising second moving means for moving said second

3 regulating member toward said first regulating member.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1, further  
2 comprising a bar which extends in an inserting direction  
3 of the new plate and engages with a bent portion at one  
4 end of the new plate inserted in said loader.

5. An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the  
2 new plate supported by said bar is moved by said first  
3 moving means as said bar moves.

6. An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the  
2 new plate supported by said bar is moved by said first  
3 moving means about said bar as a swing center.

7. An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein  
2 said apparatus further comprises a plate  
3 removal/feed switching guide which is supported at a  
4 distal end of said loader and which is switched between  
5 plate removal operation and plate feeding operation, and  
6 said bar is supported by said plate  
7 removal/feed switching guide.

8. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
2 said first moving means comprises a new plate moving  
3 member for abutting against the plate surface of the new  
4 plate, thus moving the new plate.

9.           An apparatus according to claim 8, wherein  
2           said new plate moving member comprises  
3           a support plate supported to be swingable, and  
4           a plurality of rollers supported by said  
5 support plate to touch the plate surface of the new  
6 plate, and  
7           said first moving means comprises a driving  
8 unit for swinging said support plate.

10.          An apparatus according to claim 4, further  
2 comprising a guide bar provided outside said loader to  
3 guide the bent portion of one end of the new plate to  
4 said bar.

11.          An apparatus according to claim 10, wherein  
2 said guide bar is arranged above said bar.

12.          An apparatus according to claim 10, further  
2 comprising disengaging means for moving said bar in a  
3 direction to come close to said plate cylinder, thus  
4 disengaging said bar and the new plate accommodated in  
5 said plate accommodating section from each other.

13.          An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
2 said second regulating member has a tapered surface on  
3 an inner side thereof against which the other side edge

4 of the new plate abuts.

14. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
2 said loader has a slit in a side surface  
3 thereof for allowing insertion of the new plate, and  
4 said second regulating member is provided at  
5 such a position not regulating insertion of the new  
6 plate into said loader.

15. An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein  
2 said second regulating member is formed smaller than  
3 said first regulating member by an amount corresponding  
4 to a width of the slit in a direction toward the plate  
5 surface of the new plate.